

Chen et al.
Appl. No. 10/882,427
1875.4170000/JTH/GSB

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-20 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 5 being independent claims.

In the Office Action dated February 10, 2005, claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Sakamoto, U.S. Patent No. 6,674,270 in view of Yang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,765,374. Claims 9-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Sakamoto, U.S. Patent No. 6,674,270 in view of Yang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,765,374. Declarations under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 by the inventors and the undersigned (who was also the patent attorney preparing the application) are submitted (together with the relevant exhibits), showing a date of conception prior to July 10, 2003 (the filing date of Yang et al.) and diligence in constructive reduction to practice between July 10, 2003 and August 20, 2003 (the filing date of this application). Accordingly, Applicants believe that Yang et al. is no longer an effective reference against this application, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of all the claims.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present

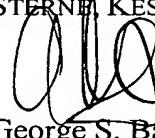
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application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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